

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 19**  
**INCIDENT NO. 2000-016**  
**DATE: July 12, 2000      TIME: 4:30 p.m.**

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Flooding and ground saturation – Due to a series of storms and high water tables, resulting from eight years of consecutive flooding.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: The National Weather Service in Grand Forks reports that today will be sunny and warm. Highs from the lower 90's west to the lower 80's northeast. Tonight it will be partly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms southwest that are not expected to reach severe levels. Thursday night through Sunday there will be a chance of mainly nighttime thunderstorms. Some of these scattered thunderstorms could be severe with possibilities of isolated heavy rains. No severe weather expected today across eastern North Dakota.

Additional scattered rainfall throughout Nelson County continues to aggravate problems related to heavy soil saturation. Officials have received additional reports of basement flooding, as well as crop and hay damage and livestock problems. One family in Central Township has relocated to camper trailer because of problems related to mold caused by chronic inundation of their basement. Heavy accumulation of mold in the house has been compounded by the humid conditions. South of Lakota, a family has been referred to the American Red Cross for assistance with a sump pump needed to battle basement flooding. Throughout the county, mosquitoes have increased because of damp, humid weather, causing cattle and horses to drop weight. Animals have stampeded fences in an attempt to get away from the insects. City officials have also reported problems associated with vector control. A request has been made by the County Commission to open CRP for emergency haying. The city of Petersburg continues to battle the surface water impacting their sewage lagoon as well as causing problems with sewer, water lines and basements. The city of Michigan also reports continued problems with the increased water tables in their area.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) reports that Slope, Traill and Wells Counties have suffered additional crop damage from excessive rain, hail and high winds since July 3-4.

Renville County emergency manager reported on July 11, that they had received from 2 to 5 inches of rain in the latest severe weather. They are reporting road, basement and crop damage. There is also damage to the county shop in Tolley.

Rolette County emergency manager reported that heavy rains on the evening of July 4, caused gravel to be washed off county and township roads. Rolette County requested a 16 inch crisafulli pump which was provided by the Department of Transportation, to pump out the main county gravel pit.

Eddy County emergency manager reported that 2.6 inches of rain fell on July 11, on already saturated ground. Roads in some townships are closed because of inundation. There are reports of street flooding and water in basements. Sandbags were provided to one family to divert water from running into their basement. Damages continue to be assessed at this time.

Wells county emergency manager reported that an additional 5 inches of rain fell in south central Wells County on July 11. Many of the previous damaged sites have once again sustained major damage from the additional rain that resulted in overland flooding.

Rain amounts in excess of 1 inch, on July 11, were reported by the National Weather Service in the following cities:

Devils Lake - 2.37 inches	Cando - 3.16 inches	Leeds - 2.36 inches
Bismarck - 1.17 inches	Streeter - 2.38 inches	

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: Lutheran Social Services, Center for New Americans has established a phone number, 701-271-3218, to assist refugees, migrant farm workers and new Americans. Translators will assist them in registering with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and help them with the disaster assistance process. The center is working with the Fargo Assembly Company, which employs 300 staff, one-third of whom are new Americans in order to help translate disaster information to non-english speaking employees.

The American Red Cross has 52 cases open at this time. The Red Cross operation has downsized their staff from 270 to 48 and anticipates transitioning service centers to the local chapters by the end of next week. Staff members are maintaining communication with the tribal communities and currently assessing potential needs.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Soil Conservation Service granted permission for an easement allowing a road to be cut and an 18-inch culvert to be installed to alleviate flood-related problems in Nelson County. Nelson County Commissioners met July 11 to review concerns and current projects to alleviate flood-related projects. Also on July 11, a meeting was held in Lakota to discuss disaster-related housing rehabilitation grants available to Nelson County residents through the Red River Regional Council.

On July 11, 2000 Renville County Commissioners declared their county an emergency due to wind and rain damage from severe weather.

Six counties have declared a need for individual assistance to address the personal loss suffered by private citizens. These counties include Renville, Rolette, LaMoure, Dickey, Emmons and Barnes to date.

North Dakota's request for an April 5, 2000 starting date for the current States disaster declaration has been approved. The incident closing period remains open at this time.

As of July 11, 4,014 North Dakotans had registered for assistance through FEMA's teleregistration center. Of those, 3,330 applications are under review by the Disaster Housing Program. To date, FEMA has paid more than \$2,941,645.62 million in housing benefits and completed 2,479 home inspections.

North Dakota Job Service has received seven claims for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA). As of July 11, 2000 Job Service had paid \$202.00 in benefits to farmers, ranchers, farm workers, migrant workers and other self-employed individuals who have lost income because of disaster conditions.

The Individual and Family Grant Program, administered by North Dakota Emergency Management, has received 953 applications and has approved \$52,173 in benefits.

The Small Business Administration has issued 3,452 applications to disaster victims and has administered \$88,500 in loans as of July 10, 2000.

A mobile DRC (Disaster Recovery Center) to assist disaster applicants will visit the following communities impacted by the excessive rains:

<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Hours of Operation</u>
7/18-7/20	Minnewaukan	Minnewaukan Public School 200 D. Avenue South Minnewaukan, ND	9 AM – 6 PM
7/24 -7/25	Fort Totten	Community Ctr. Spirit Lake Blue Community Bldg Fort Totten, ND	9 AM – 6 PM
7/26-7/27	Belcourt	Belcourt Shopping Center Hwy 5 & Hospital Road Belcourt, ND	9 AM – 6 PM
7/28	Maxbass	Maxbass Fire Hall 102 Main Street Maxbass, ND	9 AM – 6 PM
7/29	Rugby	Courthouse Community Rm. 240 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street SE Rugby, ND	9 AM – 6 PM
7/31	Garrison	City Hall- Judges Office 30 West Central Garrison, ND	9 AM – 6PM
8/1-8/2	Fessenden	KTL Building 700 Railway Avenue Fessenden, ND	9 AM – 6 PM

8/3 -8/4	New Rockford	City Hall 117 1 <sup>st</sup> Street South New Rockford, ND	9 AM – 6 PM
8/5	Petersburg	Petersburg Lutheran Church Main Street Petersburg, ND	9 AM – 6 PM
8/7	Grafton	Courthouse, Farmers Room 600 Cooper Avenue Grafton, ND	9 AM – 6 PM

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is: <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

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Douglas C. Friez, State Director